



ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

21st October 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

Today is the last day of half term. It has flown by as we re-established ways of working post “bubbles” and helped our brilliant Year 7s settle into a new school. It has been a pleasure to get to know so many students and to find out more about what they enjoy most about Ormiston Denes Academy as well as learning what they think we can do to develop it further. They have been a credit to you and they have achieved so much that makes me really proud to be able to say that I am the Principal of Ormiston Denes Academy.

Amongst the many things we have done this term is begin to revisit ways that we celebrate our students’ successes, the effort and achievement in lessons, excellent attendance and how they model our values of aspiration, integrity and respect. Over 300 students have received 100% attendance certificates and treats. We have also awarded 222 students who individually received the most reward points this half term within their year group; for effort and achievement. Please take a moment to celebrate your child’s success. This is possible because of our partnership with each other and it is important they know how much their success matters to you at home.

As I am sure you are aware, levels of Covid 19 have continued to rise across Suffolk and as such all schools have been asked to take additional precautions. From November 1st 2021, Suffolk County Council Public Health is advising;

- Staff in education settings (specialist, primary, secondary, further and higher education) to wear face coverings in communal areas outside of the classroom, unless exempt for medical reasons.
- Students in all secondary, further and higher education settings wear face coverings in communal areas outside of the classroom, unless exempt for medical reasons. **Please ensure you send your child to school with a mask after half term.**
- Specialist, primary, secondary, further and higher education settings to restrict entry to their site to essential visitors only.
- Any visitors to wear a face covering while on-site, this includes adults collecting children in the playground.

These measures will be reviewed during the week commencing Monday 15th November 2021.

In addition to this, please continue to home test over half term, and in particular complete a test just before our return, in order to help prevent any further cases. Thank you for your ongoing work to support your child's attendance to the academy in spite of the additional pressures of COVID.

Year 7 Settling In Evening

As a further measure to ensure the safety of our staff and the local community, our Year 7 Settling In Evening, which is scheduled to take place on 11th November will now be held virtually. Further details on this will follow soon.



@OrmistonDenes



/OrmistonDenes

Yarmouth Road, Lowestoft NR32 4AH | Tel: 01502 574474

www.ormistonden.es.co.uk

Online Safety

As part of our partnership with the **Safer Schools Safeguarding App**, and the potential for household conversation topics starting to centre around Christmas gifts and Black Friday, click [HERE](#) for a link outlining the online safety and wellbeing considerations linked to gaming, and more specifically the release of FIFA22.

Assemblies last week were also focussed on online safety and the importance of thinking critically about the content seen online to consider potential bias and the checking of accuracy and reliability of information. Following this, please click [HERE](#) for information relating to the emerging issue of deep-fakes and how to identify them.

For further information and to receive these email alerts in real-time, you can access the Safer Schools App by downloading it from the google app/chrome store or by using the link below:

[Safer Schools](#) App.

To log in

1. Select our school from the drop down menu and click 'continue'.
2. Enter the four digit entry code provided for your role.

Parent code: 7675

Student code: 4898

Shortly you will receive a **home IT access survey**. With digital technology playing an ever greater role in school life, it is important that we monitor up to date records regarding access to technology in the home. Please complete this short survey when you receive it.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff at the academy for their relentless hard work and optimism as they too grapple with the challenges and workload associated with Covid 19. They have truly been exceptional and your kind words of thanks have meant a lot to them.

If you would like to hear a summary of the amazing things our students have done this half term, please click [here](#).

We know that many students may enjoy both Halloween and firework events and would urge you to remind them to enjoy these but also to stay safe. Have a wonderful half term break. We look forward to welcoming all students back to the academy at the usual time on Monday 1st November.

Yours faithfully



Kate Williams

Principal